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Concert Choir tours Scandinavia

Summary: Thirty-six University of Minnesota, Morris Concert Choir members will travel to Scandinavia as a part of this year's May session. Included in eight performances will be combined concerts with the Royken Vocal Ensemble Choir, Copenhagen Christian Church Congregation and the Musikgymnasium Choir.

(April 30, 2007)-Thirty-six University of Minnesota, Morris Concert Choir members will travel to Scandinavia as a part of this year's May session.

The choir will arrive in Bergen, Norway on Wednesday, May 16, Norway's National Independence Day when children dress in party clothes and everyone parades the streets to celebrate Norway's version of the American July 4. The choir will visit more than 12 cities in Norway, Germany, Denmark, Sweden and Iceland including: Copenhagen, Stockholm and Linköping, both in Sweden, Reykjavik, Iceland and Oslo, Göteborg, and Ålesund and Otta, all of Norway, giving eight performances.

They will perform in combined concerts with the Royken Vocal Ensemble Choir, Copenhagen Christian Church Congregation and the Musikgymnasium Choir.

Ken Hodgson, director of the UMM Concert Choir, said that the joint concerts are "a chance to get to know the people of the country, not just the tourist sites."

The UMM Concert Choir first followed this tour in 1983. "Norway and the surrounding areas are so beautiful and full of history that we had to go again," said Hodgson.

The choir will perform the same repertoire they have been working on all year, yet Hodgson explained that, "one of the choirs that we will perform with wants us to learn a Norwegian song. So we will just practice the notes on "La" and then they can teach us how to pronounce the words once we get there."

The choir will return to the United States on Friday, June 1. Hodgson expects that the choir will gain "a new view of the world and of the United States and hopefully have an awakening experience."

To learn more about May Session courses at UMM, visit [May Session](#).

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